

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
TACOMA DIVISION

ALISHA HOLMES,

Plaintiff,

vs.

COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SECURITY,

Defendant.

Civil No. 3:21-CV-05452-TLF

ORDER

For the reasons set forth in the parties' stipulated motion for attorney fees under the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA), 28 U.S.C. § 2412, *et seq.*, and good cause shown, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Plaintiff is here by awarded \$5,228.38 in fees and \$3.54 in expenses under the EAJA. Under *Astrue v. Ratliff*, 130 S. Ct. 2521, 2528-29 (2010), EAJA fees awarded by this Court belong to the Plaintiff and are subject to offset under the Treasury Offset Program (31 U.S.C. § 3716(c)(3)(B) (2006)). Any EAJA fees should therefore be awarded to Plaintiff and not to Plaintiff's attorney. If, after receiving the Court's EAJA fee order, the Commissioner (1) determines that Plaintiff has assigned her right to EAJA fees to her attorney; (2) determines that Plaintiff does not owe a debt that is

1 subject to offset under the Treasury Offset Program, and (3) agrees to waive the
2 requirements of the Anti-Assignment Act, then the EAJA fees will be made payable
3 to Plaintiff's attorney. However, if there is a debt owed under the Treasury Offset
4 Program, the Commissioner cannot agree to waive the requirements of the Anti-
5 Assignment Act, and the remaining EAJA fees after offset will be paid by a check
6 made out to Plaintiff but delivered to Plaintiff's attorney.
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8 DATED this 13th day of April, 2022.

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Theresa L. Fricke
11 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE
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13 Presented by:

14 s/ Kelly S. Arefi
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